

A circular black and white stamp. The text "OIPE" is at the top, "JC139" is at the top right. The date "DEC 21 2001" is in the center. The text "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom.

PATENT APPLICATION

#6
Ineda
12/30/01

Examiner: Eric B. Fuller

: Group Art Unit: 1762

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated November 30, 2001, imposing a restriction requirement in the above-identified application.

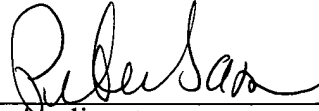
The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of two patentably distinct inventions:

Group II: Claims 14-26, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 118, subclass 715.

Applicants hereby provisionally select Group I, Claims 1-13, with traverse.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. _____

24947

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